counsel is utilized by the state, as I recall. It's...obviously, there is an Attorney General's staff, but they also utilize legal firms that have, I want to use the word "reputation", but that is not accurate, but are recognized legal experts in water law, for assistance.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, Senator Chizek.   Senator Warner, you are the next speaker. You waive. Senator Lynch, please.

SENATOR LYNCH: Senator Warner, if I could ask a question, as well.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Warner, would you yield?

SENATOR WARNER: Yes.

SENATOR LYNCH: Who makes the decision to hire outside counsel?

SENATOR WARNER: The Attorney General's Office.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Have you finished, Senator Lynch?   Senator Sandy Scofield, please, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Let me just talk a little bit about this Deer Creek issue since it seems to have raised some questions on the floor. The details of this at the moment are not either fresh or clear in my mind, either one. However, I can tell you that it has been particularly controversial in Wyoming.   And every time I go to Wyoming I get lobbied by our colleagues in Wyoming about this issue, if Wyoming is dead serious about wanting to build what is known as Deer Creek Project, which would be a major reservoir outside of Casper, Wyoming, and provide water for that city.   The feelings on that issue have led to this particular dispute and Wyoming, I am told by legislators in Wyoming, has $45 million in the bank to build this project and I believe they just allocated another seven, and, in addition, have allocated significant funds to fight this particular legal battle.   I think the complexity of the issue the complexity of the particular water law issues that are being raised here, would be something that would be unusual to find adequate expertise in any Attorney General's Office.   I think it is a justifiable expense and based on what Wyoming, at least, is telling me, this is certainly a reasonable level of expenditure to deal with this issue. So I do have a fairly lengthy amount